

BURNSIDE TO BUTLER.

is a A LIVELY SCENE IN THE SENATE.

1881.
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The Rhode Island Senator Tells Butler, of South
Carolina, That a Charge of a Corrupt Bar-
gain is False—Exciting Passages
Between the Two

The speech of Senator Frye, of Maine, had the effect of bringing many of the Southern Senators to their feet. Among others Mr. Butler said that if he saw fit he would at some future time reply at length to the allusions made to fraud in South Carolina by the Senator from Maine. The Senator had made use of the old dodge of political expediency, of calling "Stop thief!" in order to divert public attention from the real issue. The real question here was, "had there been a disgraceful bargain in this Senate by which the officials of the Senate were to be turned over to those to whom they do not belong?"

Mr. Butler—That has nothing to do with it.

Mr. Burnside (excitedly)—I say that there has been no bargain, and any man who says there has been says what is false.

Mr. Butler paused before making any reply, which was was taken advantage of by Mr. Burnside to repeat that the statement that there was a bargain was false.

Mr. Butler (quietly)—The Senator may characterize it as false as much as he pleases. I say that inasmuch as the Senator has seen fit to say that the charge is false—after a pause—I will not make

Mr. Barnside—I say that any man who says that there is a bargain says what is false, and now the Senator may say what he likes. I say it is false false! [emphasizing each repetition of the word with a blow of his clenched hand upon his desk] in every word, in letter, and in spirit. [Laughter and applause.] I have heard this thing long enough. I do not, as an honorable man, propose to sit here and listen to it; and any man who says there is a corrupt bargain on this side of the chamber, I say lets a falsehood.

Mr. Butler (coolly)—The Senator has a right to say what he pleases. I am not to be betrayed into any excitement.

[Loud laughter, in which Mr. Butler joined heartily, and which was occasioned by the apparent incoherence of the Senator's manner and his disclaimer of any pretense.] I am just giving emphasis to what I propose to say.

Mr. Butler [ironically].—I say that the Senator is uncommonly equitable.

Mr. Burnside.—I am in perfect good humor and perfectly calm, Mr. Butler. [Renewed laughter.]

Mr. Butler.—I congratulate the Senator on keeping cool. I am delighted to see him so cool. [Laughter.]

Mr. Burnside.—I do not speak as loud as the Senator.

Mr. Butler.—Another case of coolness [alluding to the emphases which Mr. Burnside placed upon the word "false."] I shall not be betrayed on this floor into any language which is unparliamentary to begin with; but I want to say to the Senator, and all other Senators on that side, when they glow

Mr. Burnside—I do not think that there is a member on this floor who will say that a moment that I desire to deter any man from anything like a free discussion, means to make this charge which has been made, that I have stirred me to the soul. I merely mean to say that any man that makes that statement says what is false. I do not want to check discussion; but, on a little suspicion on which is found

ing through all our senators to get an air of disgust Mr. Burnside left the sentence uncompleted). Does he suppose that any man on this side would indulge in a corrupt bargain? If we would not indulge in a corrupt bargain, how can there be a bargain? I say that this thing ought to stop. I will say any man ought to stop it not stop it. [Laughter.] But I say ought to stop in all decency, in all propriety. In all honesty, in all fair dealing, that thing ought to stop. If you can bring evidence of a bargain, bring it, and I will vote to expel any member of the Senate who has so much as been guilty of a bargain. If you have in a resolution raising a committee to investigate it, and will put every Senator on oath, I will vote for the resolution.

Mr. Butler regretted that the gallant and kind-hearted Senator from Rhode Island had not risen

had been bringing snafus and charges, far more than the South, against Senators from the South. While the Senators from the South had been pouring the vials of his wrath and denunciation on the Southern Senators, the Senator from Rhode Island had not deigned to open his lips. He (Mr. Butler) had made no charge that there was a bargain; but if he did not demonstrate it by irreconcilable testimony he would resign his seat in the Senate.

Mr. Burdette.—And if the Senator does I will give up my committee and acknowledge that you have a majority.

Mr. Butler then turned his attention to Mr. Frye's resolution, but he said he admitted every Senator from the South. He denied the charges of repudiation that were made against the South, but inquired whether, admitting their truth, that was any excuse for the great Republican party throwing its powerful weight on the side of repudiation. He said that he was not engaged in tampering with repudiation in that State, it was dealing with dynamite. These tactics were not going to dissolve the solid South. Just such

the South more than ever, and drove the people of that section together. The South would not be dissolved by Federal patronage; it would not be dissolved by abuse, vituperation, or misrepresentation. It would not be bullied into dissolution. That was the way above all others to bring the people into a solid mass for self-defense and self-

Mr. Burdette rose to remind the Senator that no one was justified in saying that there was a corrupt bargain, and to him the charge was very gratifying. It could be proved, it was disgraceful, and no man who had been guilty of fraud was entitled to a seat on this floor. It was not anything to smile at.

Mr. Frye disclaimed any intention of referring to any Senator personally in his speech. During his service in the House his best friends had been on the Democratic side, and he trusted that if he remained in the Senate for a few years, he would count among his warm personal friends the Sen-

Mr. Dawes, trusting that Mr. Butler could be ready to-morrow with his "irrefragable testimony," moved to adjourn, but with drew that motion to admit the usual discussion between Messrs. Hoar and Brown as to suffrage in Massachusetts.

On renewing his motion, he was about to refer in a jocular manner to Mr. Butler's "testimony," when Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, whispered in his ear, and he refrained from doing so.

CAPITAL JOTTINGS.

—Winnington L. Moorman has been appointed postmaster at Peaksville, Va.

—The national bank notes received for redemption yesterday amounted to \$103,000.

—A new post-office has been established in Virginia at Gula, Boucietourt County.

—The receipts of the Government yes-

to the new building on Ninth street, next to the Masonic Temple.

and ex-Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, called on the President yesterday.

—Quartermaster-General Meigs has written a letter to the Secretary of War favorable to closing the Department Bureau at three o'clock each day, both summer and winter, and it is probable that orders will soon be issued accordingly.

—The following postmasters' commissions (Presidential) were sent to them yesterday:

A. B. Dief-d, Benton Harbor, Mich.; F. G. Parke, Coatsville, Pa.; G. F. Dick, Bloomington, Ill.; J. H. Clark, Mattoon, Ill.; C. M. Merwing, Evansville, Ind.